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Candidate for Congress hits TMZ

PAGE 4: HOUSE PASSAGE OF EDUCATION BILL A GOOD START

THE THURSDAY Outlook

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SPORTS, PAGE 10

BRHS ready to make run at state titles

Judge orders church lawsuit parties to negotiate

April 28 trial set if former Great Bethel leaders and pastor can't reach a deal

By MITCH SNEED
Editor

A judge has asked attorneys for opposing sides in a civil lawsuit involving former leaders at Alexander

City's Great Bethel Baptist Church and the church's longtime minister Rev. Dr. Emerson Ware Jr. to take 60 days to try to come to an agreement or be ready to take the suit to trial.

In what was supposed to be a motion hearing Wednesday morning, Judge Ray Martin set a trial date of April 28, but instructed Alexander City attorney Mitch Gavin, who represents the former trustees and Jason Jackson, who represents Ware to try to negotiate a settlement. Martin toyed with the idea of sending the

two sides to mediation, but settled on having the attorneys try to broker a deal.

The suit, which was filed on behalf of a group of the church's board of directors on Oct. 12, 2017, seeks to recover nearly \$100,000 as well as complete records and accounting of charges dating back to 2001 made using a business credit card issued in the church's name.

The suit also asks the court to determine which set
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Senate OKs Whatley's bill requiring grease traps to be covered

STAFF REPORT
TPI Staff

The Alabama Senate passed the Sadie Grace Andrews Act on Tuesday. The bill sponsored by Senator Tom Whatley (R-Auburn) requires commercial food service establishments to secure the covers of grease traps to restrict unauthorized access.

In October of 2017, 3-year-old Sadie Grace Andrews drowned in a 6-foot deep grease trap outside of Bruster's Real Ice Cream on East University Dr. in Auburn.

After the tragic, accidental death at the ice cream parlor, Whatley promised to work with Sadie's family to find a way to prevent further accidents.

"It's always a tragedy when a life is lost due to an oversight. It's even more tragic when that life is a child's," Whatley said. "It was an honor to work with the Andrews family on this legislation. Thank you to my colleagues in the Senate for passing this bill and ensuring nothing like this happens again."

Sadie's family spoke in favor of the idea last week during a Health and Human Services Committee meeting on the legislation. Her father Tracy Andrews said he was "unaware that something so dangerous even existed."

"I hope this law will help bring awareness to this issue and that it will prevent something like this from ever happening again," Andrews said.



REVUE OF THE STARS



Mitch Sneed / The Outlook

About 110 local seniors were treated to a special Valentine's Day luncheon and show Wednesday at the Sportplex gym as Alexander City's Frank Tapley and River Bank & Trust teamed up to present a barbecue meal and a performance by singer and impressionist Kevin Adams. The singer is best known for his portrayal of Elvis, but he Wednesday gave those in attendance his full Revue of the Stars. Adams performed Elvis songs in character, but did numbers from Tony Orlando and Dawn, Buddy Holly, Johnny Mathis, Roy Orbison and many others. Gospel Radio Show host Ronnie Betts hosted the show, welcoming the crowd and introducing Adams to those on hand. "I have been knowing him for about 10 years and he is just so great with the people," Tapley said. "I had him here for the Christmas Parade in December and then with the help of River Bank and Ronnie Betts and others were able to put this together. We were glad to do it and glad all the folks had a great time." To see more photos, see Page 3 inside.

'Reality Check' opens eyes for BRHS freshmen

By DONALD CAMPBELL
Staff Writer

Groups of ninth-graders from Benjamin Russell High School spent part of Wednesday morning taking part in a special program in the high school gym, learning more about the financial world and what it takes to be fiscally responsible in the real world.

The Reality Check program presented the freshmen with a lifestyle scenario, including a monthly income and

specific needs that must be met, such as children. With the income and needs in mind, the students had to find ways to make ends meet with the resources available to them.

"This is our third year doing this," BRHS Principal Dr. Anthony Wilkinson said. "It is completely student-centered. They get different lifestyle scenarios and have to figure out how to live on a budget."

"This event is two-fold," business teacher
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Donald Campbell / The Outlook

Representing the expense of childcare, sophomores Alaina Young and Devin Bradford pose with their booth during the Reality Check event for freshmen at Benjamin Russell High School Wednesday morning.

Dadeville City Council hears citizen concerns and plans for progress

By DONALD CAMPBELL
Staff Writer

Two citizens approached the Dadeville City Council during Tuesday night's meeting with issues they feel the city needs to address, while plans for progress throughout the city were also presented.

"This is your city and your city council," Mayor Wayne Smith said. "We encourage you to come to meetings and bring someone with you."

North Loop Road resident Joe Hill said, despite a 40 mph speed limit on his road, he has seen multiple instances of people who

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Today's
Weather
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If interested, please contact Lt. Randy Walters at (256) 329-6755, or randy.walters@alexandercityal.gov.
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